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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Docket No. 17810 (MHM Docket No. 13503US01)

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

below named inventor, I hereby declare, of my own knowledge or on information and belief, that:

My residence, post office address and country of citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I am the original, first and sole inventor, if only one inventor is identified below, or an original, first and joint inventor, if more than one inventor is identified below, of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought and which is entitled:

ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR ASSEMBLY

and which is described and claimed:

in the attached application including specification and claims if this line is marked, or

in the original specification and claims filed on February 7, 2002 as U.S. Patent Application Number 10/072,038.

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification and the claims;

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of the application in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56(a). The text of 37 CFR §1.56(a) states,

"A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim

until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is canceled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine: 1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and 2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office;"

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 USC §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

Provisional Application No.:

Filing Date:

This application is a continuation pursuant to 35 USC §120 of each prior application (if any is identified) identified as follows:

U.S. Serial No.: _____

U.S. Filing Date: _____ Status: _____

This application is a continuation-in-part pursuant to 35 USC §120 of each prior application (if any is identified) identified as follows:

U.S. Serial No.: _____

U.S. Filing Date: _____ Status: _____

and I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(a) which became available between the filing date

of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I claim foreign priority, pursuant to 35 USC §119(a)-(d) of an application for patent or inventor's certificate, and identify below said application (if any is identified) and any such foreign application (if any is identified) having a filing date before that of the application on which foreign priority is claimed;

Application No: _____ Country: _____
Filing Date: _____

I hereby declare that all statements made of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and I am warned that willful false statements and the like are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, (18 USC §1001) and may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

I hereby appoint Robert J. Kapalka (Registration No. 34,198), Michael J. Aronoff (Registration No. 37,770), Driscoll A. Nina, Jr. (Registration No. 34,685) and Joseph A. Tessari (Reg. No. 32,177), and whose post office address is: Tyco Electronics Corporation, 4550 New Linden Hill Road, Suite 450, Wilmington, DE 19808-2952, and Dean D. Small (Registration No. 34,730), Kirk A. Vander Leest (Registration No. 34,036), Timothy L. Harney (Registration No. 38,174), James R. Nuttall (Reg. No. 44,978), Joseph F. Harding (Reg. No. 48,450) and Joseph M. Butscher (Reg. No. 48,326) and whose post office address is: McAndrews, Held & Malloy, 500 West Madison Street, Suite 3400, Chicago, IL 60661, or their duly appointed associate, my attorneys or agents with full powers of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the Letters Patent, and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection therewith.

Direct all correspondence to the address:

**Tyco Electronics Corporation
4550 New Linden Hill Road
Suite 450
Wilmington, Delaware 19808-2952**

Aaron J. Shuman

Full Name of First Inventor



4/17/02

Inventor's Signature

Date

USA/1976 Daybreak Circle, Harrisburg, PA 17110

Citizenship / Residence

same

Post Office Address

John R. Shuey

Full Name of Second Inventor



4-17-02

Inventor's Signature

Date

USA/1209 Montrose Circle, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

Citizenship / Residence

same

Post Office Address

Neena Sooch

Full Name of Third Inventor

Inventor's Signature

Date

USA/43431 Vintners Place Drive, Sterling Heights, MI 48314

Citizenship / Residence

same

Post Office Address

Guy Willems

Full Name of Fourth Inventor

Inventor's Signature

Date

Belgium/Pinksterbloemhof 10, 8301 Knokke-Heist, Belgium

Citizenship / Residence

same

Post Office Address



Aaron J. Shuman

Full Name of First Inventor

Inventor's Signature

Date

USA/1976 Daybreak Circle, Harrisburg, PA 17110

Citizenship / Residence

same

Post Office Address

John R. Shuey

Full Name of Second Inventor

Inventor's Signature

Date

USA/1209 Montrose Circle, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050

Citizenship / Residence

same

Post Office Address

Neena Sooch

Full Name of Third Inventor

Inventor's Signature

4/18/2002

Date

USA/43431 Vintners Place Drive, Sterling Heights, MI 48314

Citizenship / Residence

same

Post Office Address

Guy Willems

Full Name of Fourth Inventor

Inventor's Signature

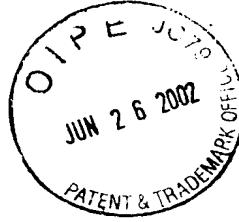
Date

Belgium/Pinksterbloemhof 10, 8301 Knokke-Heist, Belgium

Citizenship / Residence

same

Post Office Address



Aaron J. Shuman
Full Name of First Inventor Inventor's Signature Date

USA/1976 Daybreak Circle, Harrisburg, PA 17110
Citizenship / Residence

same
Post Office Address

John R. Shuey
Full Name of Second Inventor Inventor's Signature Date

USA/1209 Montrose Circle, Mechanicsburg, PA 17050
Citizenship / Residence

same
Post Office Address

Neena Sooch
Full Name of Third Inventor Inventor's Signature Date

USA/43431 Vintners Place Drive, Sterling Heights, MI 48314
Citizenship / Residence

same
Post Office Address

Guy Willems
Full Name of Fourth Inventor Inventor's Signature Date

Belgium/Pinksterbloemhof 10, 8301 Knokke-Heist, Belgium
Citizenship / Residence

same
Post Office Address